

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Nevada State Office 1340 Financial Boulevard Reno, Nevada 89502-7147

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In Reply Refer To: NVN-092243 2800 (NVC0100)

EMS TRANSMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO:

Director (WO100)

FROM:

Amy Lueders (NV910)

Nevada State Director, Bureau of Land Management

SUBJECT:

Approval to initiate the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for a

solar energy right-of-way (ROW) application in a solar variance area.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend approval for the Stillwater Field Office to process the right-of-way (ROW) application for the Luning Solar Energy Project (LSEP) in Mineral County, Nevada. The Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Solar Energy Development in Six Southwestern States (Solar PEIS) identified the location of the proposed LSEP as a variance area open to applications for solar energy development. Preliminary review by the Stillwater Field Office and early coordination with Federal, State, local, and tribal government agencies has found few known resource or management conflicts at the proposed location.

The attached memorandum from the Stillwater Field Office describes the early coordination work completed as a part of the variance area review process established by the Solar PEIS Record of Decision (ROD) (October 12, 2012). The memorandum also lists the potential issues to be addressed during the NEPA review process.